

Patent claims

1. A method for connecting a supply conductor wire to a contact plate of an electric lamp, the supply conductor wire (4) being guided through an aperture (2a) in the contact plate (2) and being welded or soldered to the contact plate (2), characterized in that an additional wire (5) is used to connect the supply conductor wire (4) to the contact plate (2), an arc (7) being generated between the additional wire (5) and the supply conductor wire (4) or between the additional wire (5) and the contact plate (2), so that at least some of the material of the additional wire (5) is melted and the aperture (2a) is closed off with the aid of the molten material.

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2. The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that, to generate the arc (7), the additional wire (5) is connected to the positive pole (8) of an electric voltage source and the contact plate (2) is connected to the negative pole (9) at the voltage source.

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25 3. The method as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that there is electrical contact between the contact plate (2) and the supply conductor wire (4).

30 4. The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the additional wire (5) consists of a material whose melting point is lower than the melting point of the contact plate (2).

35 5. The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that that end of the supply conductor wire (4) which is guided through the aperture (2a) is melted.

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6. The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the generation of the arc (7) and the melting of the additional wire (5) are carried out under an inert-gas atmosphere.

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7. The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the diameter of the aperture is less than the sum of the diameters of the supply conductor (4) and the additional wire (5).

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8. The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the supply conductor wire (4) consists of a material selected from the group consisting of copper, nickel, copper alloy or nickel alloy.

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9. The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the additional wire (5) consists of copper or a copper alloy.

20 10. The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the contact plate (2) consists of a material selected from the group consisting of stainless steel, brass, copper or nickel.

25 11. The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that a metallic tubular rivet (10), which constricts the diameter of the aperture (2a) and through which the supply conductor wire (4) is guided, is pulled into the aperture (2a) and into the aperture in the cap insulator (3).

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12. The method as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that the tubular rivet (10) has a flange-over edge (11), which rests on the contact plate (2).

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13. The method as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that the aperture in the cap insulator (3) has a non-rotationally symmetrical shape into which the tubular rivet (10) is fitted.

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